

March 2008

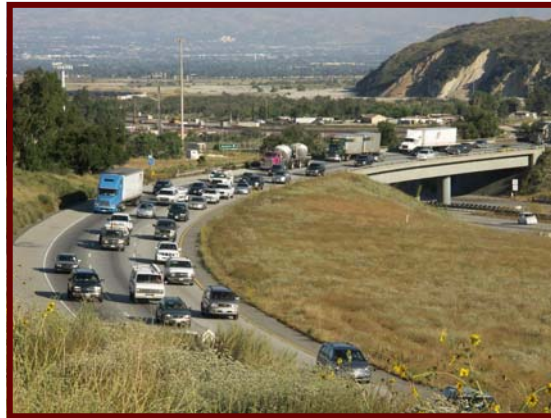


SAN BERNARDINO ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS

# Project Summary

## Interstate 15/Interstate 215 Interchange Reconstruction

The junction of Interstate 15 and Interstate 215, known as the Devore interchange, is the worst bottleneck on I-15 in San Bernardino County. Severe delays are common, especially during peak afternoon and weekend hours. This interchange is heavily impacted by recreational travelers bound for Las Vegas and Laughlin, commuter traffic and freight moving through the area.



interchange with I-215. The project proposes to reconstruct the interchange to allow I-15 to be the main movement for vehicles. Drivers on I-215 would merge on and off I-15 from the right-hand side of the freeway. This design will allow drivers to travel through the interchange without having to change lanes or lose lanes in the process.

San Bernardino Associated Governments is working with Caltrans to prepare a project study report, project report and environmental document for improvements to the interchange. Work began in 2007 and is set to continue until 2011, when detailed design will start.

This phase of work will study adding one northbound lane and one southbound lane on I-15 between I-215 and Glen Helen Parkway, where the freeway now is three lanes in each direction. Adding the two new lanes will eliminate the traffic bottleneck in both directions.

Drivers currently need to make multiple lane changes to stay on I-15 as they pass through the

Truck bypass lanes also are being considered to help improve traffic flow. These lanes would eliminate the need for slow-moving trucks to weave across heavy, faster-moving automobile traffic as they pass through the interchange.

In addition, the study will examine possible local road improvements, such as the connection of Cajon Boulevard/Route 66 through the interchange.

These combined improvements would reduce traffic delays, improve the flow of goods through the region and boost access to freight facilities in the San Bernardino Valley and the Victor Valley.

### Project Significance

SANBAG has designated reconstruction of the Devore interchange as its highest priority for funding through the Proposition 1B Trade Corridors Improvement Fund.

This project also was named the highest short-term priority in the Interstate 15 Comprehensive Corridor Study prepared for SANBAG, Caltrans and the Southern California Associa-

tion of Governments. The study concluded that regardless of the option selected to improve mainline I-15, the interchange reconstruction is the top priority.

SANBAG advanced funds from future revenue of Measure I, the half-cent sales tax for transportation in San Bernardino County, in order to begin this phase of work.

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## Traffic and Truck Statistics, 2007

- More than one million vehicles travel each week through the I-15/I-215 interchange in Devore.
- Traffic on this section of I-15 has been growing at a rate of 5% each year over the last several years. This is considered very fast growth, since a rate of 2% per year is typical for the region. The rate of growth is expected to revert back to more typical rates following the recent building boom.
- Traffic forecasts predict that more than 250,000 vehicles could be traveling through the area daily by 2030, compared to an average of 140,000-160,000 vehicles per day now.
- A total of 21,000 trucks travel through this area daily.
- This interchange is the most significant chokepoint on I-15 in San Bernardino County, with traffic queues extending south for more than three miles to Sierra Avenue during the late afternoon/evening rush hour. Friday evening delays are much longer, due to additional recreational drivers bound for Las Vegas and Laughlin.
- Interstate 15 is a key goods movement gateway to Southern California.

### Source:

Caltrans and Southern California Association of Governments

## Engineering and Environmental Work

The project study report, project report and environmental document will require a set of technical studies and preliminary engineering activities to be completed. These studies, combined with input from local agencies and the public, will help SANBAG develop a preferred project alternative for which environmental clearance will be sought from state and federal regulatory agencies.

The technical studies will include:

- Mapping
- Surveying
- Traffic conditions
- Highway capacity analysis
- Safety analysis
- Traffic weaving analysis
- Hazardous materials
- Railroad operations
- Public utilities
- Right of way needs
- Air quality
- Sensitive plants/wildlife
- Water quality
- Seismic conditions
- Drainage needs
- Other potential impacts



## Estimated Project Schedule

SANBAG estimates that the project study report, project report and environmental document for the interchange

will be complete and state and federal clearance will be received by 2011.

Final design and development of project plans, specifications and cost estimates are expected to start in 2011, along with

right of way work. Right of way needs will be identified, and parcels will need to be acquired for this project.

Pending the availability of funds for these future phases, construction is planned to start by late 2013 and last about three years.

This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

## Approximate Costs

The current preliminary project cost estimate is \$200 million. During the project study report phase, cost estimates will be developed for each design alternative. These estimates are anticipated to be developed by the end of 2008.

Revenue from Measure I, the half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in San Bernardino County, will pay a portion of the costs. Other state and federal funding sources will be pursued for this project.

## To Learn More...

Stay informed about the Devore interchange reconstruction project by adding your name to the stakeholder database.

Go to [www.sanbag.ca.gov](http://www.sanbag.ca.gov) and click on the I-15/I-215 Interchange link from the "Active Projects" section on the home page, and then register for the database.

Or you can call SANBAG at (909) 884-8276 or write to:  
Devore Interchange Project  
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